



Albert K. Shen
National Deputy Director

Albert K. Shen is the National Deputy Director of the Minority Business Development Agency. He serves as the principal advisor to MBDA National Director, Alejandra Y. Castillo, overseeing the management of the day-to-day operations of the agency. His public policy and economic development advocacy focus has raised the agency's profile in Congress and state houses and afforded MBDA the opportunity to make its business case around the country. His passion for community development put MBDA on the ground in cities like Baltimore and Ferguson facing the aftermath of civil unrest. Agency strategic partnerships with the US Department of Justice and local leadership are accelerating the restoration of minority businesses in these distressed areas. Shen has also challenged the agency to use available technology to document the work and streamline agency processes. He is most notably known around the country for his "selfies" which engage the audience and underscore the power of technology to tell MBDA's story.

Shen's agency portfolio includes leadership of the Agency's business development, intergovernmental/legislative, and national strategic initiatives that directly impact the growth and development of minority businesses in the US. He leads all new policy initiatives that require stakeholder or congressional advocacy. He also directs special programming that includes the establishment and ongoing efforts on increased access to capital. That work includes: new supplier diversity models; youth entrepreneurship; mergers and acquisitions; private equity/venture capital; government contracting and new international markets in Asia, Africa and South America. He serves as the MBDA liaison to the White House on economic priorities in international trade and supply chain innovation.

Prior to his appointment with MBDA, Mr. Shen was a small business owner and respected community advocate whose leadership made significant impact on some of the largest and most critical infrastructure and environmental clean-up projects in the Northwest. For his efforts Albert has consistently received accolades from industry and community organizations. He has been recognized as one of the Top 100 Asian American Businesses in the U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce and awarded the 2012 U.S. Small Business Administration Region 10 Minority Champion of the Year Award. Mr. Shen lends his support to educational institutions, community organizations, business organizations and political advocacy groups. He served as Chair of the Seattle Community College Board of Trustees and as Vice Chair of the Washington State Commission on Asian and Pacific American Affairs. He is currently on the Board of Directors for the Diversity Alliance for Science, the supplier diversity organization for the pharmaceutical and biomedical industry.

Albert Shen earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry and environmental science from the University of Washington.